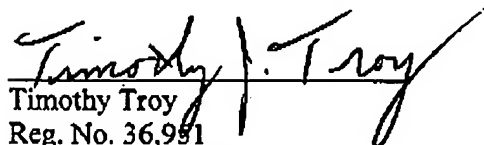


The applicants respectfully traverse the election requirement by the Examiner. The invention of Group I is directed to a foam control composition comprising a polydiorganosiloxane fluid and an additive composition of melting point 35 to 100°C comprising a non-polar polyol ester which is a polyol substantially fully esterified by carboxylate groups each having 7 to 36 carbon atoms. The invention of Group II directed to a foam control composition comprising a polydiorganosiloxane fluid and an additive composition comprising a non-polar organic material of melting point 35 to 100°C which is miscible with the polydiorganosiloxane fluid. The polydiorganosiloxane fluid of the Group I invention broadly encompasses and overlaps with the polydiorganosiloxane fluid of Group II and the additive composition of Group II broadly encompasses and overlaps with the additive composition of Group I. A group of inventions is considered linked to form a single general inventive concept where there is a technical relationship among the inventions that involves at least one common or corresponding special technical feature. The expression special technical features is defined as meaning those technical features that define the contribution which each claimed invention, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art. Applicants believe that there is a technical relationship between Groups I and II that involve at least one common or corresponding special technical feature. It is also noted that during the PCT Examination, it was determined that there was Unity of Invention for the Search and Preliminary Examination.

However, if the examiner should make this requirement final, the applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, including claims 1-11 and 14-20 at this time. The applicants make this election with traverse. The applicants make this election with traverse for the reasons discussed above.

This reply is being submitted within the period for response to the outstanding office action. Although the applicants believe in good faith that no extensions of time are needed, the applicants hereby petition for any necessary extensions of time. You are authorized to charge deposit account 04-1520 for any fees necessary to maintain the pendency of this application. You are authorized to make any additional copies of this sheet needed to accomplish the purposes provided for herein and to charge any fee for such copies to deposit account 04-1520.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dow Corning Corporation

  
Timothy Troy  
Reg. No. 36,981  
Tel: 989-496-5533